

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of February 13, 2006**

7001 Carroll Avenue Site Tour and Proposed Development Balloon Visualization (Ward 1 and 3): On Saturday, February 25, at 11:00 am, ICG, the owner of properties at 7001 Carroll Avenue that also front on Westmoreland Avenue, will be illustrating the proposed height of a 80,000 square foot development using balloons. The owner-developer has been working with area organizations and is still in the informal pre-application design stage prior to submittals requesting design or construction approval. For more information, please contact Ilona Blanchard at (301) 891-7205 or ilonab@takomagov.org. (*Housing and Community Development*)

Takoma Metro Planning Workshop: WMATA will be sponsoring an all-day planning workshop on Saturday, March 4th for the community. The workshop will probably start at 10 am (although one report said 9 am) and last until 4 pm. It will take place at Trinity Episcopal Church, 7005 Piney Branch Road, NW, in Washington, DC. All are welcome to attend and lunch will be provided. The workshop is likely to consist of small groups discussing issues and concerns related to the proposed development of the Takoma Metro property. After lunch, there will be an effort to come to consensus on the results of the morning break-out sessions. WMATA is supposed to be advertising the meeting in newspapers and by mailings. As we learn more details, information will be posted on the City's web page, www.takomaparkmd.gov. Or, contact Suzanne Ludlow at 301-891-7229 or SuzanneL@takomagov.org. (*Community & Government Liaison*)

Emergency Debris Management Plan: The Metropolitan Council of Governments received a grant from Homeland Security funds to hire Dewberry and Davis to coordinate Debris Management plans for all jurisdictions in the COG region. Public Works staff received a draft document on Tuesday and are reviewing it and revising it and when completed will add it as an annex to the City's Emergency Management Plan. (*Public Works*)

Street Sweeping: The street sweeper has resumed daily operations in the City. Commercial areas receive sweeping weekly, residential areas will receive treatment on a rotating basis with the goal to receive 8 sweeps in a year. (*Public Works*)

Snow Response: The Department dispatched snow plows beginning at 5 pm on Saturday. A 5 person crew worked a 12 hour shift until 5 am. The next 5 person crew was brought in from 5 am to 5pm on Sunday. A 3 person crew worked from Sunday, 5pm until 1am Monday to provide salt treatment to all streets for Monday traffic. Sidewalk snow removal in public areas was begun Sunday at 7am with a 4 person crew for an 8 hour shift and resumed during normal business hours on Monday and Tuesday. (*Public Works*)

Day Laborers: Cpl. Smith of the COP Team has been working to implement a contract to allow officers to act as agents of the landlord at the business nearest the new temporary day laborer site at Sligo Mill Road and Sheridan. Officers have been monitoring the area for traffic problems and location of laborers looking for work. An enhanced enforcement detail will operate weekday mornings for the next week at University and New Hampshire to encourage laborers and employers to use the new temporary site and to enforce quality of life issue compliance. This will include officers working in an overtime capacity. Additional properties in the Crossroads area are joining the Officers as Agents program. (Wards 3 & 6) (*Police*)

Crime Report: Criminal Investigations and the COP Team have been working together on issues related to graffiti in the Old Town area and robberies in the V3 beat (Wards 1 & 3). There have been eight robberies, two attempted robberies, and an armed carjacking in the City in February. Two suspects have been charged in relation to at least one of the robberies. The crimes have occurred at varied times (from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.) in widely separated locations from New Hampshire Avenue to Old Town and Lee Avenue. (Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6). All suspects have been described as male, with at least one white and one Hispanic suspect. Takoma Park investigators are working with several adjacent jurisdictions, which are experiencing the same robbery issues. (*Police*)

TP Alert: For the first time, the Department utilized TP Alert, part of the RSAN (Roam Secure Area Network) to advise residents of a potential safety threat. On Tuesday, a car that had been stolen in Takoma Park shortly after noon was implicated in a series of robberies in nearby Prince George's County. A lookout was broadcast through TP Alert for the vehicle, with subscribers receiving a text-message abstract and/or more detailed e-mail. As customary, the alert was also sent to or through Neighborhood Safety Contacts, the Police Bulletin and Takoma Alert (a yahoo group). (*Police*)

Shift Changes: Shift change will occur this weekend. Squads 2 (Sgt. Hammond) and 4 (Sgt. Skibicki) will move to the day shift, with Squads 1 and 3 (Sgt. Bowers and Frishkorn) going to the night shift (8 p.m. to 8 a.m.) This schedule will continue through April 2, which should be kept in mind when trying to reach officers on these teams. *(Police)*

Officers in Meetings: On Wednesday, Capt. Coursey attended the Montgomery County Problem-Solving Team, a unit related to C-SAFE initiatives. Cpl. Smith of the COP Team attended the Old Town Business Association. *(Police)*

Recruitment: Sixteen applicants took the police entrance exam on Feb. 11; nine passed the test and will be seen by an oral interview panel this week and next. *(Police)*

Locating CID: Criminal Investigations has moved to the trailer in the police lot off Grant Avenue, to accommodate construction related to bulkheads between the new and old sections of the municipal building. This work is anticipated to last for about two weeks. There will be no interior access between the old and new sections of the Police Department during this time. *(Police)*

Poetry Reading: The first in a series of monthly poetry readings hosted by Takoma Park Poet Laureate Don Berger and the Arts and Humanities Commission will be held this coming Thursday, February 23 at 7 p.m. in the atrium area on the third floor of the Takoma Park Community Center. The reading will feature the works of Ms. Kateema Lee and Mr. Don Berger. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Indoor Soccer: 64 1st - 4th grade boys and girls are getting ready for 2018 World Cup every Sunday at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue every Sunday, from 1 - 6 pm. Golaso! *(Recreation)*

Youth Community Basketball Program: 32 kids play ball every Saturday morning (9 - 11 am) at Piney Branch Elementary. They're gettin' ready for the big time. *(Recreation)*

Takoma Park Basketball League: 33 5th and 6th grade kids, 4 teams compete every Saturday at Piney Branch Elementary from 11 am - 1 pm. The season ends in 2 weeks and the one-day playoff on March 4 should be a doozy. *(Recreation)*

Youth Exposed to Success (Y.E.S.) Basketball Program: 40 7th - 9th grade boys hoop it up every Tuesday night at Piney Branch Elementary from 7 - 9 pm. Playoffs start February 28 and promise to be exciting games between four evenly matched teams. *(Recreation)*

Table Tennis Program: 12 boys and girls, ranging from 3rd - 9th grade, are in the middle of a 6-week program that happens most Saturdays in the Takoma Park Community Center's Azalea Room from 3 - 5 pm. Some wicked non-political spin takes place in that room! *(Recreation)*